Linux MODICIA OS

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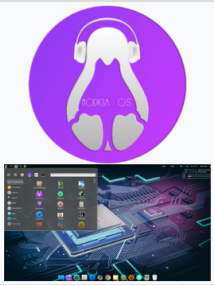
Linux MODICIA OS is a multimedia Linux distribution designed primarily for musicians, graphic designers, and video makers.

Linux MODICIA OS operating system	
	
Developer	MODICIA Company Marco M. Mariani
Family	Debian
Initial release	Linux MODICIA Ultimate 0.2 (April 15, 1998)
Current release	MODICIA OS Caravaggio 6.12.69 RT LTS (February 17, 2026)
Kernel type	Linux (6.12.73) Real Time modular monolithic kernel
Supported platforms	x86, AMD64 ed EM64T
Graphical interfaces	Cinnamon
License	GNU General Public License
Stage of development	Stable
Website	www.modiciaos.cloud/

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Description [edit | edit wikitext]

It is based on the "stable" branch of Debian , uses the Cinnamon desktop (6.4.10) and a recent Linux kernel . [1] MODICIA OS includes a carefully selected set of open-source multimedia software and tools, such as Audacity (audio editor), Brasero (burning utility), Cheese (webcam application), Curlew (media converter), GIMP (graphics editor), HandBrake (video transcoder), Kdenlive (video editor), MediaInfo (tool that provides technical data about multimedia files), VLC (media player), Peek (animated GIF recorder), RawTherapee (photo editor), XnView (image viewer) and many others. The distribution also integrates the LibreOffice software suite for general office tasks. [2]

Etymology of the name [edit | edit wikitext]

The name of the distribution recalls the ancient Latin name of the city of Monza, "Modicia", attested by Roman inscriptions.[1]Monza [2]

History and development [edit | edit wikitext]

Linux MODICIA OS was born in 1998 , with the aim of offering a complete and optimised operating system for the multimedia and educational sector . The first version, MODICIA OS Ultimate 2.0, was designed for professional studios and educational institutions [3] , with pre-installed software and ready-to-use configurations. [4] Over the years, the distribution has gone through various evolutionary phases: [4]

- 1998–2016: Based on Debian , with a focus on stability and compatibility.
- 2017–2023: Temporary switch to Ubuntu LTS to improve hardware support .
- From 2024: definitive return to Debian Stable, with full binary compatibility and regular updates.

During its development, MODICIA OS experimented with various desktop environments , including Xfce (in the "Anabolized Xfce" version) [5] and later Cinnamon (in the "maCinnamon" version a complete reorganization of spaces, apps, menus, icons and themes) chosen for its elegance and intuitiveness, often compared to the macOS interface . [6]

The project is also supported by the Modicia Project Community, which actively contributes to the free and open-source version .

In March 2018, Linux MODICIA OS was adopted as the official operating system by the Santa Maria degli Angeli Institute in Brescia, in a project promoted by the then Administrative Director of the School Dr. Vittorio Boghi. The initiative aimed to provide students with a stable, fast and license-free platform, in line with the MIUR directives . The system was installed on 21 workstations and an interactive multimedia whiteboard (LIM), [7] involving the entire IT infrastructure of the Institute and demonstrating the suitability of MODICIA OS for daily use in the school environment. [3]

Adesione a Open Invention Network [edit | edit wikitext]

On May 25, 2018, MODICIA OS officially joined the Open Invention Network (OIN), [8] the world's largest community dedicated to protecting open source software through patent sharing and defense. Joining OIN represents a significant step for the project, strengthening its commitment to a free, secure, and collaborative ecosystem.

As a member of OIN, MODICIA OS benefits from:

- Protection against patent disputes related to Linux and open source technologies
- Access a free global cross-licensing network among thousands of members
- Collaboration with internationally renowned companies and open source projects

This initiative is part of the project's broader commitment to promoting open innovation, transparency and digital freedom .

Advanced Technical Features [edit | edit wikitext]

MODICIA OS implements a series of optimizations aimed at improving system performance and responsiveness, particularly on multimedia hardware:

- Swappiness reduced to 10%, to speed up memory access and extend the life of SSDs .
- Active RAM compression , which allows for a performance increase of up to 20% by reducing disk access .
- One-click installable Real-Time kernel designed for musicians and audio professionals who require minimal latency.
- Full binary compatibility with Debian Stable, ensuring regular updates and long-term stability.
- JACK Audio Connection Kit and Rsync preconfigured, for advanced audio management and data synchronization.
- Custom GRUB utility , which allows selection of preferred kernel at boot. [9]
- Optimized for school and teaching environments, with multilingual support (25 languages) and compliance with MIUR and INVALSI directives .
- Streamlined systemd service management : Parallel service startup, reduced boot times, and granular control via custom units.
- Modular scripts with MODICIA OS branded feedback: each critical operation (installation, update, synchronization) is accompanied by localized messages that are visually consistent with the system identity.
- Native AppImage support : Run portable software out of the box, with no external dependencies, ideal for educational and creative environments .
- Privacy Protection and GPL / CC-BY Compliance : Each included package is verified for license and transparency, with visible attribution to the authors.
- Universal launchers for Windows and Linux: MODICIA OS offers cross-platform tools with invisible automation and consistent feedback, for a seamless experience on every system.
- Branded Syncthing integration : Automatic file synchronization between devices, with tray icon and silent startup, perfectly integrated into the MODICIA OS environment
- Educational and collaborative web commenting system and modules with modular logic.

Exclusive features [edit | edit wikitext]

MODICIA OS includes a set of graphical tools developed internally by the MODICIA OS Project team and released to the open source community under CC BY + GPL license, designed to simplify the daily use of the system and improve the user experience: [10]

- **MODICIA OS Control Panel** is a collection of graphical tools and terminals designed to simplify system management, optimize performance, and enhance the user experience on MODICIA OS. Each utility is designed to be intuitive, multilingual, and

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Birthday Mode (Baby Globe)
Disabled
Enabled
Learn more about Birthday Mode
Text
Small
Standard
Big
Length
Standard
Long
Color (beta)
Automatic
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Dark

seamlessly integrated into the desktop .

- **Total Menu Launcher** : Full-screen application search: Optimized search system that allows you to locate installed applications using their original names, with full-screen interface for greater visibility.
- **WineHQ Manager is a graphical tool that allows you to easily install or remove WineHQ and Winetricks on** Debian -based systems. Designed for simplicity and multilingual support, it is easy to use.
- **Preload Control** is a graphical utility for starting or stopping the Preload service with elevated permissions. Designed for multilingual environments and seamless desktop integration.
- **Syncthing Service Control** is a graphical utility that lets you enable, disable, or start the Syncthing service with a single click. Designed for simplicity and multilingual support.
- **RT Kernel Checker** is a graphical tool that verifies the availability of real-time (RT) Linux kernels on your system. Ideal for audio, video, and low-latency industrial applications.
- **Swappiness Control** is a graphical utility that allows you to adjust Linux's swappiness value between 60% and 10%. It is ideal for optimizing memory usage on desktop systems.
- **SSD TRIM Control** is a graphical utility that allows you to enable or disable periodic TRIM operations for SSDs. This utility is useful for maintaining performance and longevity.
- **ZRAM Control** is a graphical utility that allows you to enable or disable ZRAM compression to improve memory efficiency. Ideal for systems with limited RAM .
- **Extra Font Installer** is a graphics utility that installs over 2,500 additional fonts for MODICIA OS. It expands your creativity in graphics, publishing, and multimedia.
- **Wine Dark Theme Installer** is a graphical utility that applies a dark theme to Wine applications via registry patches. It's ideal for a consistent interface and visual relaxation.
- **AMD GPU Checker is a graphics utility that detects** AMD graphics cards, displays active drivers , and allows you to install firmware packages . It's ideal for checking GPU configurationand driver status.
- **NVIDIA Driver Installer** is a graphics utility that detects your NVIDIA GPU and automatically installs the recommended driver. Designed for MODICIA OS users who want a quick and reliable setup.
- **AppImage Menu Integrator** is a graphical utility that installs or removes AppImage applications from the system menu. It automatically extracts desktop icons and files for seamless integration.
- **Kernel Manager** is a graphical utility that allows you to lock or unlock standard and real-time (RT) Linux kernels. It also includes a view of locked packages for advanced system control.
- **Theme Switcher** is a graphical utility that allows you to quickly switch between your desktop's light and dark themes. Designed for visual comfort, accessibility, and aesthetic consistency.
- **System Updater** is a terminal utility that updates and improves your system using Nala. It keeps MODICIA OS safe, fast, and always up to date.
- **Dock Preferences** opens the Plank dock configuration panel. Customize icon placement, theme, behavior, and size for a sleek and responsive desktop experience.
- **Hardware Info** (inxi) opens a terminal window with detailed system information using the inxi tool. This includes the CPU , GPU , RAM , disks, network, and more, making it ideal for diagnostics and support.
- **Wi-Fi Driver Installer** is a compact tool that quickly detects and installs missing or outdated Wi-Fi drivers, ensuring a stable wireless connection during setup or recovery.
- **Rescue File Recovery** launches PhotoRec in a terminal window to recover lost files from disks, partitions, or memory cards. Ideal for recovering data after accidental deletion or corruption. [10]
- **Package Manager is a lightweight, localized graphical application that simplifies software** package management on MODICIA OS. With an intuitive GTK-based interface , it allows you to search, install, and remove APT packages with a single click, displaying the status of each package in real time. It includes multilingual support, privileged execution via pkexec, and direct links to MODICIA documentation and licenses. Ideal for end users, schools, and redistributed environments.
- **File System Check** allows you to force a file system check (fsck) on the next system reboot. It is designed to run with root privileges and includes a graphical interface using Zenity , with localized messages in Italian, English, German, Japanese, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.
- **Language Switcher is a** GTK- based graphical application developed for MODICIA OS that allows you to quickly and easily change the system or user language. The interface is localized in multiple languages and offers a drop-down menu with all available locales, as well as single-user and global application options. It fills the gap in the GUI for Debian and Cinnamon- based distributions. The application is released under the CC BY - GPL3 license for free redistribution.
- **Defrag File System** is a GTK- based graphical utilitydeveloped for the MODICIA OS operating system . The program allows defragmentation of disks , directories , and individual files. It was designed to support users who manage large archives, such as movies or photo collections in RAW format , stored on hard disks .
- **Gigi AI** Assistant is a lightweight, multifunctional graphical application designed to integrate seamlessly with the MODICIA OS desktop using a robust GTK interface and a built-in translation system . It allows users to instantly interact with the integrated AI system. The application offers an intuitive interface for sending requests and viewing real-time responses, as well as executing complex commands.
- **AMD VAAPI Manager:** Multilingual GTK interface for advanced hardware acceleration configuration on AMD GPUs , optimizing performance for professional video editing.

Supported hardware and official devices [edit | edit wikitext]

MODICIA OS is optimized to run on a wide range of devices, with a particular focus on the educational and creative sectors :

Mini PC " Caravaggio ": compact and powerful workstations with MODICIA OS Professional pre-installed, designed for graphics , audio and video studios .

Mini PC MINISFORUM UM750L Slim, processore AMD Ryzen 5 7545U a 6 core e 12 thread fino a 4,9 GHz, AMD Radeon 740M, 16 GB LPDDR5 / 1 TB SSD, HDMI/DP/USB4/2,5 G RJ45, Wi-FI6E, BT5.2[11]

Compatibility with LIM (Interactive Whiteboards): the system is used daily in school laboratories, such as at the Santa Maria degli Angeli Institute in Brescia, where it is installed on 21 workstations. [12]

Extensive hardware support, including for x86 , AMD64 , and EM64T devices , with pre-installed drivers for professional audio/video peripherals.

Officially tested and compatible notebooks , including:

- CENAVA 15.6" – budget laptop with 4000mAh battery, ideal for school environments.
- BMAX B4 Plus – Mini PC , Processor: Intel ® N100 turbo 3.4 GHz, Memory: 16 GB DDR4 GHz ideal for school environments.
- Teclast F17Plus 17.3" – large display, backlit keyboard, 16 GB RAM and 512 GB SSD, suitable for graphics and video editing.
- Teclast F16Pro 15.6" – equipped with WiFi 6, 38,000mWh battery and FHD IPS display, perfect for advanced productivity. [13]
- OUVIS AMR5 – Mini PC , Processor: AMD Ryzen 7 5700U 8-core, 32 GB DDR4 RAM and 512 GB SSD, Suitable for graphics , video editing , composers and DAW. MODICIA Company - web designer, website development, software and operating systems
- Xiaomi Redmibook 14 Pro (2025) – with Intel Core Ultra or AMD Ryzen 5 7535H and Ryzen 7 7735H processors, up to 32 GB of RAM, and a 2.8K Super Retina display; designed for creative professionals.
- Xiaomi Redmibook 16 Pro (2025) – 16" version, with Intel Core Ultra 5/7 or AMD Ryzen 5 7535H and Ryzen 7 7735H, 32 GB RAM, 1 TB SSD and Super Retina 3.1K display, ideal for high-performance multimedia studios. [14]

Graphical interface [edit | edit wikitext]

The graphical interface of this Linux distribution is designed to offer a macOS- inspired user experience , combining visual elegance and intuitive functionality. The included desktop environment is not a standard version of Cinnamon , but rather a deeply reworked variant renamed **maCinnamon** . This overhaul has affected spaces, usage, menus, applets, utilities, and code adjustments, making it substantially different and difficult to identify with the original. Despite the radical changes, maCinnamon retains Cinnamon's performance and compatibility, while also ensuring a unique and distinctive user experience.

Main components [edit | edit wikitext]

- Window Manager : Use *Mutter* , in the *Muffin* variant , for window management, ensuring smooth transitions and modern graphics.
- Terminal : The default terminal is *Tilix* , chosen for its ability to handle multiple sessions and grid layout, in line with the system's production philosophy.
- Custom Themes: To recreate the aesthetics of macOS , three original themes have been developed: [15]
  - Queen Teodolinda (default window manager theme): offers rounded edges, soft shadows and a sober color palette.
  - King Agilulfo (GTK2/3 theme): Apply a consistent style to your applications, with graphic elements inspired by the minimalist design of macOS .
  - Queen Margherita (GTK2 /3 icon set): Offers detailed, monochrome icons with a refined and recognizable look.

This combination of technologies and customizations makes the environment particularly suitable for users who appreciate the aesthetics of macOS but want the freedom and versatility of a Linux system .

Note [edit | edit wikitext]

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Computer Science Portal : Access Wikipedia articles about computer science.

Categories : Software from 1998 | Debian-derived distributions | [other]

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